



**Delaware Open Data Council
Draft Meeting Minutes
3/13/2017**

Council Members Present:

Rhonda Lehman, DTI (Chairperson)
Dana Rohrbough, DOS / GIC (Co-Chairperson)
Bob Zimmerman, DNREC
Mike Mahaffie, DNREC
Joanna Champney, DOC
Steve Yeatman, DSCYF
David Blowman, DOE

Council Members Available *Via Telephone Conference / SKYPE*:

Dean Stotler, OMB
Li Wen Lin, DelDOT

Council Members not present: None

Guests:

Miriam Pomilio, Office of State Planning
Debbie Sullivan, DTI FirstMap Team
Sheila Hunton, DOS/GIC (via telephone)
Bonnie Arvay, DNREC
Erin Wilson, DNREC
Ewan Simpson, Socrata
Ryan Mannion, Socrata
Ori Pleban, Socrata

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 pm

Welcome / Introductions of those in attendance in person and via Skype

Minutes from the Previous Meeting (1/23/16)

- Dean Stotler stated that the New Business section, first bullet item should be "EPER" instead of "EPA".
- Bob Zimmerman motioned to approve the minutes. Joanna Champney seconded the motion. All members voted to approve.

Updates

- Dover Post – Rhonda Lehman was interviewed by reporter Jim Lee of the Dover Post. He was interested in the overall open data program, how it

worked, what the process was to publish and decide on new datasets, . The article is being published in conjunction with Sunshine Week. The article should be published on 3/15. Mike Mahaffie stated that he also spoke with the reporter for the same article. Jim Lee stated that he had contact the Governor's Office for a quote.

- Socrata Connect Conference – Rhonda Lehman, Bonnie Arvay, and Erin Wilson attended the Socrata customer conference in Washington DC from March 6th-8th. The conference was full of presentations from many states, cities, local governments. They learned how many other customers were doing things, using the Socrata products, learned about new products, new capabilities within the products we are using, etc. Bonnie and Erin went to learn more about the Socrata products and how they might fit into their initiative to build an Environmental Indicators website. Bonnie stated that she was very impressed and learned how data can be presented and they now have a path forward for their project. Bonnie attended a session specifically on environmental data and learned a lot. Rhonda learned how to use the Open Data Portal is being used as a platform for Data as a Service. Other reporting/Business Intelligence tools can use the built in OData connector to access the data and be able to create some more complex visualizations and analytics with the data.

2017 Idea Challenge/National Civic Day of Hacking

Dana Rohrbough explained that the Idea Challenge is scheduled for the evening of 3/15 with a weather contingency date of 3/22. This event is a major event for Open Data Delaware. The Idea Challenge is an annual event hosted and sponsored by the Technology Forum of Delaware, where teams get together to ideas that can help make communities better. This year they decided to center this year's event around open data. The teams ideate to try and solve community issues. The Food Bank of Delaware is one of the non-profits that will be there sponsoring a team. They may choose to use open data to determine where there are food deserts in Delaware (not desserts), where food pantries are in relation to the food deserts. The projects will depend on the ideas coming from each group. The Horn Program of the University of Delaware will be there focusing on how to grow and start businesses. We are hoping to help this initiative by determining what datasets are needed. All Council members should have received an invitation to the event. In June, the National Civic Day of Hacking will be held. There are six different events that lead up to the final event in June, starting with the Idea Challenge. Other events will have workshops around ideating, forming plans, help with prototyping, help with content strategies, information on training, application development to bring the ideas to fruition. This is being done to help incentivize teams to finish their projects with grants and awarded on milestones so that they can bring their dreams to reality. This is being built off the event called Go Code Colorado. Colorado takes the intellectual property (IP) from the winners, whereas we do not want to take the IP or own the resulting code or applications. We want the winners to own the code and

potentially create a business out of the ideas. If Council members would like to attend, let Dana know and she will get you registered without a fee to attend. Teams are organizing at 3:00 and the audience is invited at 6:30 to watch the presentations.

Council Membership

- Rhonda Lehman received confirmation this morning that Leslie Poland will be the representative for the Dept. of Finance. She was unable to be at today's meeting.
- CIO Collins sent out an information packet to all new Cabinet members, which contained a form to designate an Open Data Council member. A follow-up needs to be done with CIO Collins to see if this packet has been sent out to existing Cabinet members as well who may not have an Open Data Council member.
- We have not had any official designees for the agencies that visited at the last meeting: Dept. of Agriculture, DEDO. Mike Mahaffie mentioned that Dan Shortridge left Ag and is now working for the Delaware State Housing Authority. He said this would be a good agency to bring into the Open Data Council.

Dataset Updates since the last meeting

- New Datasets: Aerial Waterfowl Survey data
- Datasets Updated:
 - Toxics Release Inventory – added 2012, 2013, and 2015
 - Deaths – added 2014
 - Births – added 2014
 - Baby Names – added 2014
 - Public Library Usage – added fiscal year 2016
 - State of Delaware Checkbook – added Feb. 2017
 - State Employee Credit Card Transactions – added Feb. 2017
 - Revenue – added Feb. 2017
- Datasets Ready to Publish: Delaware Business Licenses, Historical Delaware Business Licenses, and State Employee Earnings.
- In Progress: Permanent Drug Drop Off Boxes
- Automation is now in place for several of the datasets. There are six datasets being updated daily automatically: Child Care Licensing, Professional and Occupational Licensing and their Disciplinary Actions, Delaware Business Licenses, Certified Vendors - Small Business Focus Directory, and Certified Vendors - Office of Supplier Diversity. Rhonda Lehman will continue to work towards automating the updates for as many datasets as possible.
- Li Wen Lin asked if Rhonda saw the link to the GTFS dataset for bus schedules. Rhonda indicated she would see what could be done with this format of a dataset.
- The business license data should be published within the next week.
- Jill Fredel asked if Rhonda has received the drug treatment data. Rhonda indicated the data that was received was from some time ago and potentially

contained some information that might not be considered public. No update has been received since then.

Portal Statistics

- The statistics for the Open Data Portal and Open Checkbook sites were reviewed with the Council. These statistics are from 1/23/17 through 03/12/17.
- Open Data Portal:
 - There have been 8,215 page views
 - The most popular datasets are: State Employee Credit Card Transactions (296 views), State of Delaware Checkbook (236), Restaurant Inspection Violations (225), Revenue (150), and Professional and Occupational Licensing (115 views).
- Open Checkbook is counted separately, and thru Google Analytics. There have been 12,659 page views, 2,118 users, and 82.5% of the views were from new visitors.

Primer Upgrade

This was discussed at the last meeting. Rhonda and Dana just received access to be able to perform this upgrade. This will take users to a metadata page featuring visualizations prior to taking the user to the raw data. Rhonda and Dana will begin working on this upgrade in the next week and may be contacting each Council member to find out what content should be featured on the metadata page for each dataset.

Dataset Suggestions/Comments

- Rhonda Lehman asked the council members to look at the sheet entitled "Dataset Suggestions".
- Several new suggestions have been received since last meeting:
 - Athletics and health in Delaware – How many school children are involved in sports between high school 9th grade and a senior in college? Also how many people attend public skate parks like the one in Glasgow park off of Rt. 40? These are interesting datasets.
 - Discussion:
 - Does DOE have any of this information on sports in school? They currently have to go to the school districts for this information. The DIAA may have some of this information within high schools for DIAA sponsored activities. This would not be all sport information.
 - Does DNREC have any skate parks? There is data in FirstMap on the parks. However, there isn't any usage information by facility. DNREC has some park usage information overall.
 - The Glasgow park being referenced here is a county park.

- Transit Schedule Data – The GTFS dataset currently available at <https://www.dartfirststate.com/information/routes> should also be served on this open data portal.
 - We can include this as an external link from within the Open Data Portal catalog.
- School Feeder Patterns – polygon maps of the feeder area for each traditional public school in the state.
 - Discussion:
 - FirstMap has boundaries for each school district, but not for individual schools. David Blowman stated that DOE has this information, but is not sure which format this is in. This would be appropriate for FirstMap since the data would be in polygons. We will pursue this with DOE.
- Educational Programming Options in Delaware – The dataset that feeds these interactive maps (<https://dedoe.schoolwires.net/Page/2667>)
 - Discussion:
 - David Blowman states that this information is on their website. We can discuss with them about bringing this information into the portal.
 - There are also national sites like greatschools that rate and rank schools based on various criteria.
- Division of Corporations Registered Entity List – <https://icis.corp.delaware.gov/Ecorp/EntitySearch/NameSearch.aspx>
Bulk company registry option.
 - This data is sold and will not be made available on the Open Data Portal. Dana Rohrbough will discuss with the Division of Corporations and provide a response to this suggestion.
- MVA Vehicle Registrations – a dataset on vehicle registrations by make, model and year.
 - Discussion:
 - There was a session at the Socrata Conference that Holland's Motor Vehicle registration publishes their registration data in their open data portal and they get millions of API calls against this data every year.
 - Li Wen Lin sent a request to the Director of Motor Vehicles. Some of the DMV data is sold to companies.
- Police Stats – These state police accident reports that are published in pdf format online: <http://dsp.delaware.gov/reports.shtml>
 - This will need to be discussed with the Delaware State Police. We don't currently have a representative on the Council from Safety and Homeland Security.
- Jill Fredel asked if we have looked at Voter Registration information or Political Contributions/Campaign Finance. She thinks these would be interesting datasets. This can be discussed with the Department of Elections. Dana Rohrbough would like to publish Polling Places in the portal.

- Bob Zimmerman said that they would be interested in seeing Drinking Water data in the portal. DNREC is asked for this data even though that program resides with Health and Social Services. He was wondering what the timeline was to make this data available.
- Bob Zimmerman asked if we receive feedback from users of the portal looking for additional functionality. Dana Rohrbough has not seen any customer comments regarding functionality they wish the portal had. Most people are excited about what they are seeing.

Next Datasets

- The Council reviewed the Dataset Priority List.
- Li Wen agreed to move the Transit Schedules to the priority list.
- David Blowman agreed to move School Feeder Patterns to the priority list.
- There was discussion about FOIA logs at agencies. We would like to work with the FOIA Coordinators to standardize the way this data is being collected and publish it to the portal.
- Our Strategic Plan states that the Council would publish a plan of when we would make datasets available.
- Bonnie Arvay indicated that DNREC would have some additional datasets for the Environmental Indicators project that they would want to add to the list.
- Rhonda Lehman asked if each Council member could provide information in two weeks with a projected publishing date (in quarters). Deadline will be March 27th. Please provide information back to Rhonda by 3/27.

New Business/Open Discussion

- Mike Mahaffie discussed the creation of a dataset of state acronyms in use. Mike has started making a list of acronyms in use by DNREC. He will send out a proposed format to all Council members for comment. This is something that would need to be a living, breathing thing. Dean Stotler stated that acronyms can have multiple meanings. Dean also suggested in looking at dataset metadata to add to the list.
- Bob Zimmerman offered DNREC assistance in getting the drinking water data.
- Socrata was asked if we could federate datasets that are located on a federal Open Data Portal, or could we federate portions of datasets (ie. just the Delaware data within a federal dataset). Ori Pleban stated that how federation currently works, it would federate all datasets from their portal into yours. Socrata will take back the suggestion that we would like to be able to federate a portion of a dataset within our state portal. Mike Mahaffie stated that some data scientists in the agencies say that once data is reported to the federal government, sometimes it is changed and therefore may no longer have the same accuracy. So, this is something we may want to do with caution.

- Li Wen Lin reported that civic hacker Mark Headd took the DelDOT snow plow information and tried to put together a timeline or map of snow plowing efforts for a previous storm. It was interesting, but didn't turn out that well.
- Mike Mahaffie asked if Socrata has experience pulling data in GTFS format. Ori Pleban suggested that we can send it to him to play with.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held on May 8, 2017 in the same dual locations.

Public Comments

- There were no public comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.